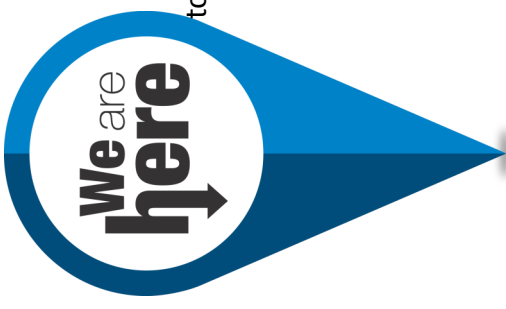


## Public Transit

The City of St. John's continues to invest in public transit, with a major focus in 2017 on improving accessibility, expansion and efficient operations. A fee increase per ride from \$2.25 to \$2.50 supports these investments and reduces the public's subsidy to more sustainable levels.



## Fast Facts...

- The average rate for transit systems in Canada serving populations between 50,001 – 150,000 is \$2.51.
- On average, 800 monthly passes and 150 10-ride passes a month are sold to Eastern Health, Advanced Education & Skills, Child Protection
- Public transit is typically 50-60% subsidized; programs to further subsidize pass prices based on financial need are not common in the industry.
- The City of St. John's subsidy for 2017 is 63.8%
- In many jurisdictions across Canada, public transit is heavily funded by the provincial government, which is not the case in St. John's and region.
- The increase in Metrobus fares is the first increase since 2008; if the rates were adjusted for inflation, the fare would actually go from \$2.25 to \$2.81.

## Accessibility and GoBus

- Commenced wheelchair accessible service in June, 2015 with three wheelchair accessible routes. As of January, 2017, this will be expanded to six routes.
- With the appropriate infrastructure currently in place to accommodate wheelchair accessible shelters, in 2017, all shelters on these six routes will be replaced with wheelchair accessible shelters. Sidewalks will also be installed in six areas in the city to improve accessibility on these routes.
- The responsibility for the oversight of GoBus was recently transferred to Metrobus with an immediate annual savings of \$225,000. With further analysis of operations, Metrobus is anticipating further efficiencies to be achieved.

## Equipment and Technology

Metrobus has made investments in equipment and technology that will lead to efficiencies and operational savings in the future, some with a payback period of less than two years.

## Route Expansion

This year, Metrobus has made service adjustments and achieved efficiencies in route design in the east end of the City to expand its service area to include the Logy Bay Road area and the airport without increasing operational costs.

## Efficiency

With a new smaller bus now available to the transit industry, in 2017, Metrobus will be introducing three 30-foot buses to its fleet to replace 40-foot units to be retired. The purchase price of these buses will be approximately 25% less and will achieve a 33% fuel savings. These will be used on select feeder routes with lower ridership.